

DOCKET NO.: FCI-2646/3159
Application No.: 10/044,717
Office Action Dated: March 17, 2004

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The pending office action stated that claims 1-12 and 16-21 are allowed and claims 22-25 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the Section 112 rejections and incorporate the limitations of the base and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claims 1-12 and 16-21 remain unchanged from the prior response. Claim 22 is amended to recite “undercut portion” and “side frame portions,” each of which have support in claim 1. Claim 23 is amended to incorporate all of the limitations of independent claim 13 and to recite “inboard contact surfaces,” which has antecedent support. Claim 24 is not amended because it depends from claim 23. Claim 25 is amended to recite “undercut portion” and “sides,” each of which has support in claim 16.

Moreover, claim 15 is amended herein to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 13, from which it depended when filed. Based on a telephone conversation with Examiner Nasri on April 19, 2004, claim 15 contains allowable subject matter, subject to any further search (if necessary). Because claim 13 is canceled, claims 14 and 26 are amended to depend from allowable claim 15.

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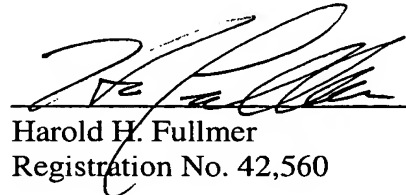
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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the all of the claims are in condition for allowance. All of the pending claims have already been determined to contain patentable subject matter except for claim 15 and its dependent claims. Conditional agreement between Examiner Nasri and the undersigned was reached on the allowability of claim 15 pending incorporating all of the limitations from its independent claim, which incorporation is accomplished herein. The claims rejected under Section 112 have been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejections.

Applicants request favorable consideration and a notice of allowance. If the examiner determines that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of the subject application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.

Date: May 17, 2004


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